FIGHTING THEM OVER.

What Our Veterans Have to Say About Their Old Campaigns.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

Thirteen miles nearly east of Tazewell, East Tennessee, is a ford on Clinch River called Evans' Ford. On the east side of the ford is a complete herse-shoe bend. Three miles further is Clinch Mountain Gap, while just over the mountain is Bean Station, a place of some note, where two of the main roads of East Tennessee intersect. Soon after the siege of Knoxville, Longstreet went into winter quarters at or near Rogersville, while the army of Burnside advanced to the vicinity of Bean Station. The other portion of the East Tennessee Army, known as Wilcox's division, were stationed at important places between Bean Station and Cumberland Gap. The One Hundred and Sixteenth Indiana were in the horse-shoe bend at Evans' Ford. The regiment had no rations, and the men looked gaunt and hungry, for there was not much to be gotten by foraging. One evening a heavily-loaded wagon train bank, thinking the huge loads of provisions badly managed on that occasion.

TILLFORD DAGGER, Co. C, 116th Ind. NEWTON, IND. A Good Joke on the Fifth Conn. Volunteers.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

out it. I very well know there is not an old sol- name of "mother." dier living, whether a three months' man or a

I served myself three years and nearly two months in the Fifty-fifth Illinois volunteers, and was discharged in October, 1864, but when there was a call for old soldiers afterwards, I enlisted—in March, 1865—in what was called then "Hancock's Veterans"-properly U. S. V. V., First Army Corps. We were sent Washington, D. C., and organized into regiments at Camp Stoneman, D. C.-nine regiments in all. I was assigned to the Sixth regiment, and afterwards transferred to the Fifth regiment, U. S. V. V. On or about the 21st of July, 1865, this-the Fifth regiment-was orcity. Arriving there a steambost was ready to take us on and convey us up the Connecticut infantry was expected at New York the same evening, but got delayed, and, being ahead of and, on Sunday morning, at several of the way home to be mustered out at Hartford. It home, and what made it the better fun for our boys was that they had the figure five on their caps. At about 10-o'clock a. m. Sunday we got to Hartford, and the whole populace were out. to see the regiment return. Of course they to town disappointed. We were marched through this beautiful city to a nice camp, where plenty of tents had been put up, and there slopped for the night. About midnight the Fifth regiment Connecticut volunteers arrived, but as they were better known in that county than we were, the most of them stopped in the time out. JACOB FINE.

More About Spanish Fort and Blakely.

SHITHFIELD ILL.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In your issue of September 13th, in reply to George W. Cox as to what army captured Spanish Fort, you said it was the Thirteenth and Sixteenth Corps. That is correct. But there is one thing I want to know, viz.: What corps did the troops belong to that were in the Gulf Department before those corps came down after the capture of Vicksburg and Port Hudson? I was under the impression that we belonged to the Nineteenth Corps, and if we were not transferred to either of the other corps (the Thirteenth and Sixteenth) we are left out in the cold, for our regiment (the First Indiana heavy artitlery) was there all through the siege, and if we belonged to the Nineteenth we should have proper credit for what we did. itzers, and opened up fire on the fort about April 1st, but we did not stay there very long. as we were in direct range of their water batto pieces, covering up some of our men with To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: ALF. N. MIDDLETON,

WORTHINGTON, IND. [The First Indiana heavy artillery served in the Department of the Gulf, but, with the exception of a brief period after its transfer from an infantry to an artillery regiment, (in February, 1863, it did not serve in the Nineteenth Corps. Eight hundred rank and file of the regiment were ordered to the field as infantry. in April, 1864, but soon returned to their old position in defense of New Orleans, where they remained until the movement against Mobile. The following troops were in operation against Spanish Fort, Fort Blakely, and Mobile in April, 1855: Sixteenth Corps, Major-General A. J. Smith; First division, Brigadier-General J. Mearthur: Second division, Brigadier-General K. Garrard; Third division, Brigadier-General | To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: General C. C. Andrews; Third division, Briga- | near Fort Sanders: the East against Mobile.-Ep.]

Orderly Sergt., Co. C, 1st Ind. Heavy Art.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

front of Blakely. Steele's corps started from the soldier! Pensacola, Thirteenth and Sixteenth from | ADEL, IA. Mobile Point, investing Fort Spanish, and at the same time Steele invested Blakely; Thirteenth and Sixteenth took Spanish Fort, and a To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Bow Gen. Sam James Gobbled Up a Wagen Train. whole force was estimated at 30,000, exclusive 10 on that dreadful stormy night of April swered to the last roll-call.

Seventh Corps, that participated in the battle and he yet carries the mark of a stroke from of Helena, Ark., 4th of July, 1863, write up a a cannon swob inflicted by a rebel picket history of the same, and tell us how the John- after the work of spiking the guns had been nies did not dine in Helena that day, and how | accomplished. Jake is a lively comrade, and we killed, wounded, and captured nearly as | would like to know if any of that noble six are many of them as our whole force amounted to. living besides himself. I am a deeply-interested reader of THE TRIB-UNE, and await eagerly the coming of each CHAS. O. MUSSER, number. Serg't, Co. A, 29th Iowa V. I., Abe Lincoln

Post, No. 29, G. A. R. COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA.

From the Mother of Co. B. 85th Pa. V. L.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: During the winter or early spring of 1863, while the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania volunteers came to the ford and commenced to cross. The was encamped on St. Helena Island, S. C., Serboys swung their caps and ran to the river- geant John B. Norris got a thirty days' fur- hear from some member of our brigade, which were intended for us. As the stream was con- | Keystone State, and at the expiration of his | Thirty-first, Thirty-eighth, and Seventeenth | siderably swollen at the time, and two soldiers, furlough, while preparing to return to his com- Ohio, Twelfth Kentucky, and Eighty-second who were in a log cane, coming down the pany, he thought he would bring the boys a Indiana. river, could not keep out of the way of the treat. So he got a gallon of old rye whisky, train, the came struck a six-mule team broad- boxed it up and carried it as if it were a satchel side, knocking down every mule and burying He arrived safely about 4 o'clock in the atterthe two men out of sight in the water. The | noon, and, of course, it was not long until the merles come up all right, while the men swam | boys got a taste of the contents of the box, and, and waded ashere. But just imagine our sur- as it was not bad to take, the boys imbibed prise when the big loads of sugar, coffee, bacon, pretty freely. It seemed to be contagious, for etc., kept right on fer Bean Station. We many of the boys who had never been known knew who it was intended for. Did they get | to indulge took too much, and almost every it? Not much! This wagon train went into non-commissioned officer in the company was camp at the foot of Clinch Mountain, guarded | pretty noisy. I was on camp guard that day, by the One Hundred and Seventeenth Indiana | and Lieutenant Mitchner, of company D,-a (Colonel Thomas J. Brady). The rebs heard of | favorite in the regiment, -chanced to be officer the big load for Burnside's army and sent Gen- of the guard, and well it was for some of the erel Wm. E. Jones to gobble it up. Jones came | boys, too, that he was on duty. About 7 or 8 over to the west side of the mountain, swung o'clock some of the boys got pretty happy, and around to the rear of Brady and took the sup- | the lieutenant inquired of me what was the plies. Brady resisted but feebly, and made a matter with company B. I told him they had persions night march over the mountain to some hard eider, and asked him to come down burnside at Blain's Cross-roads. I think a small | and get some himself. So down we went, and force of Johnnies was stationed on the summit, our little orderly-sergeant treated him, and and they drove Brady to the by-paths, and | when he left he told the boys they might have after great effort they got to the army below all the fun they pleased, but they must not Bean Station. Brady was blamed at the time, make too much noise. But the whisky was in but, for some reason, went scott free. The One | and the sense was out, and after taps had been Hundred and Sixteenth regiment was within | beaten the lieutenant relieved me from duty supporting distance. We were aroused at mid- and sent me to my quarters with instructions night and stood in line of battle' till near to keep the boys quiet if I could, and you may daylight, and then we double-quicked to the be sure I had my hands full; for, by the time scene of action, or rather smoke, for Jones | I got the boys quieted in one quarter, the noise burned what he did not take. If I am not | would break out in another. Some of them, right about the affair, I will stand corrected, indeed, got so much under the influence of The One Hundred and Seventeenth Indiana | the whisky that, if I succeeded in getting them regiment was a good one, but was surely in their tents and keeping them still for a little while, they would be fast asleep. Others I had to carry by force to their tents, and hold them until they went to sleep. By 12 or 1 o'clock everything was quiet, but at roll-call the next morning there were some anxious faces, and a number asked me if they had been very noisy, and some of them expected to be reduced to I have been a reader of your paper but a the ranks. But when I told them that Lieushort time, yet I can hardly express my appre- tenant Michner would not report them they ciation of its value to old soldiers. I don't see felt like hugging me, and said I had been a how anyone who can raise a dollar can do with- mother to them, and ever after I went by the

Now, if any of my old companions are readthree or four years' man, who does not like to ers of THE TRIBUNE, (which I hope they are,) see something in regard to his old regiment and should see this little article, I should like to hear from them. "MOTHER." EPWORTH, IOWA.

Who Will Write Up the Deep Bottom Fights.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I have been a subscriber to your valuable paper for over a year, and I now wish to tressfrom Chicago to Springfield, Ill., thence to pass a little on your space. I was a private soldier in Co. D, One Hundred and Eightythird Pennsylvania volunteers, First brigade, First Division, Second Army Corps; had my first baptism in the Wilderness; was slightly wounded in the chin at Deep Bottom on the James River, on or about the 12th of July, dered to Hartford, Conn., by way of New York | 1984, but was only away from my regiment a few days. Now, I have a strong impression that there was a little fighting done between River. This was on Saturday evening, and it | the Rapidan and Petersburg, and what I want seems that the Fifth Connecticut volunteer | to get at is this; Will not some comrade write up from his diary the battles that took place between the 3d day of May, 1864, and the 16th them, we took the boat already furnished for | day of June, of the same year, and if this rethem with rations. We started up the river, quest should be seen by any of the boys of the old First brigade, First division, Second Army towns where the boat stopped, people came out to | Corps who are handy with the pen, will they cheer the Fifth Connecticut who were on their | not give us a few lines about Deep Bottom, where three regiments of our brigade captured seems as if everybody knew of their coming | four 24-pounders? I was not in at the death. but I have a recellection of marching across an open field while the "blasted" shells were tearing up the ground, and then starting up the hill, when the infantry opened on us, and I was told afterward that they left the churches one of those little fellows that make such a "sickening thud" when a fellow happens to be sor a found out their mistake, and went back | in the way, scraped the bark off my chin and stopped me from eating hard-tack and salt horse for a few days. B. F. NAYLOR. SAN JUAN, CAL. Co. D, 183d Pa. V. I.

A Mysterious Search.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: As a constant reader of your paper I wish to ask city that night, and left us in possession of the a question that, perhaps, some officer or soldier nice camp so carefully prepared for them. who was on the Wilson raid through Alabama What became of them I do not know. We were | and to Macon, Ga., can answer. After being at sent to different parts, and had to serve our | Macon, Ga., a few days, we received orders to march at 5 o'clock the next morning. The Late of Co. C, 5th U. S. V. V. usual routine was gone through with in the way of packing, and the bugle sounded "boots and saddles," and we marched out in regimental order, fell into our place in the brigade, and the brigade fell in with the division. We marched a few miles out and filed to the right into a large field-each regiment to itself-and the order was given, "By company, right wheel, halt; prepare to dismount-form ranks!" This being done, our captain disappeared, and a strange little captain, from some other company, with his popinjay uniform on, stepped in on the right of company D, and went through and made a general search. The balance of the division was served the same way, when we marched back to the same camp that we left in the morning. I don't think that our regiment was out of camp longer than four or five hours, if that long. Every member of the Fourth division who was at Macon, Ga., will remember the circumstances. Will not some one tell why | came across a tombstone erected to the memory Our company (Co. C) was stationed a little on the left of the center with our 64-panel how.

The Fourth division of the center with our 64-panel how.

The Fourth division of a revolutionary soldier, on which was inscribed a beautiful poem. A sergeant of some wounded on the field; four of the regiments lost. SAMUEL SHAFFER, LAMOINE, IA. Co. D. 1st Ohio Cav.

Another Call on the Army of the Potomac.

then changed our position about fifty yards some of the boys of the Army of the Potomac further to the left, and kept up a continuous | to come forward and give us a little news from fire on them until they surrendered on the that grand old army. Since then I have closely night of the 8th of April. We had one man | watched for answers, but so far have seen but killed in Co, C during the siege. Will some one | two-one from an old comrade who belonged tell through The National Tribune what to the same company as myself, (and I can asinfantry regiment was in the ditches in front | sure you I was glad to hear from him.) and the of Co. C, First Indiana, on the night of the other from a member of the Thirty-eighth New York volunteers, Kearney's old division. Now, boys, I will once more call on you, especially you of the old Third Corps, once commanded by the gallant Daniel E. Sickles, who father, whose name is Jeremiah Wilhelm, who how we of the Third Corps regretted losing | longed to the Third Missouri V. V. I., Second him, and I believe that the boys would have | brigade, First division, Ninth Army Corps, and, gone farther and done better fighting for him | while attending the Reunion at Hastings, Neb., than for any man that ever commanded us. the days along the Rapidan and around Petersof the Second division, Third Corps.

B. W. VAN DER VEER, Co. I, 120th N. Y. S. V. LINEVILLE, WAYNE Co., IA.

Some Curious Questions.

E. A. Carr; Thirfeenth Corps, Major-General I wish to ask some questions of the boys who Gorden Granger; First division, Brigadier- were at Knoxville, Tenn., during the siege, to write up a sketch of the operations of the First General C. Veatch; Second division, Brigadier- and especially those who were stationed at or

some time ago, when an ex-quartermaster made a statement to that effect and showed one of the

center, and Steele's command the right, in | '65. Long live The Tribune, the friend of J. M. JOLLEY, Co. B, 107th III. V. I.

The Spiking Party at Island No. 19.

few hours later Blakely fell into the hands of | I saw sometime ago in The TRIBUNE an in-Siecle. Our lines, from extreme right to left, | quiry as to the whereabouts of the party of six | shot. was twelve or fourteen miles long, and our volunteers who spiked the guns at island No. of the naval force. Both of our old command- 29, 1862. The man who had command of that ers have joined "the silent majority" and an- | brave little squad is living in Springfield, Ill., and his name is Jacob Gruse. He then belonged Will not some comrade of Solomon's division, | to company K, Twenty-sixth Illinois infantry; L. STEELE. Late 30th Ill. Inf'y.

CHESTER, ILL.

He Pulled the Lauyards at Hoover's Cap.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I have seen in your valuable paper, several times, mention of the affair at Hoover's Gap, Tenn., and I could not but notice that Wilder's brigade seems to claim all the credit. It seems to me that the writer is a little off. I remember very distinctly pulling the lanyards quite lively in that engagement. I would like to lough to go home to visit his friends in the old | was in the Third division, Fourteenth Corps-E. McDonald. UNION CITY, MICH.

Thrilling Experience of the Harris Light Cavalry.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In the early spring of '62 our regiment of cavalry took the advance and marched on Centerville, Va. We soon discovered that there were only a few straggling rebs there, and, therefore, charged in. Evidently they had been gone but a little while, as fires were still burning in the huts there. We pushed out to Mannassas Junction to find it in flames and the rear-guard just gone. Everything was ablaze but a ten-gallon keg of whisky, which apparently had been rolled out on one side especially for our use. The boys soon filled their canteens and took the last drop from the keg, but had not yet drank any of it, when some one suggested that the whisky might be poisoned. With our canteens uncorked and and partly raised to drink, just think of anymaking such an assertion! It was positively cruel, but it arrested every movement cork and some with lips parted ready to swallow. We stared at the speaker for at least five minutes, when one old chap said he could not stand it any longer. "I'll drink this whisky," said he, "if it kills me in five minutes!" and he took a long pull of it. All his comrades closed around him and said if he lived ten minutes they would all take a drink, too. That Time up!" and then you should have seen the boys go for it, and they were soon feeling oners at Bristol Station, and they told us they from them something of that sa had rolled the whisky out to let the boys have a good time. I suppose there are some of the boys living yet who remember this circum-Wм. H. WOOD, stance well. Co. A, Harris Light Cav.

ROSLYN, N. Y. The Twenty-First Iowa at Vicksburg.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: scription of our campaign in the rear of Vicksburg. Well do I remember the charge that the comrade from the Twenty-third Iowa speaks of; for the Twenty-first Iowa infantry was there, the next regiment to the left of the Twenty-third. I well remember the storm of leaden hail that rained over and around us, but through which the Twenty-first and Twenty-third Iowa, with the Twenty-second Iowa and Ninety-ninth Illinois as support, passed without a falter until we had taken the works in front of our lines. The troops on other parts of the field were equally successful, taking many prisoners. Here our brave and gallant colonel, Samuel Merritt, of the Twenty-first Iowa, was wounded through the hips, and the colonel of the Twenty-third Iowa was killed. Well do I remember the mush and corn-cakes that we lived on until we got communication opened by way of Yazoo Pass-the mush cooked in oyster cans and tin cups, and the corn-cakes baked on shovels and spades or wrapped in

we can for that best of soldiers' friends-THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, that it may long live to stand at the front as the champion of soldiers'

WAVERLY, BREWER Co., IOWA. The First New York Mounted Rifles.

Co. F, 21st Iowa Vol. Inf., 13th A. C.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In reply to "Carbine" and "Carbine No. 2," in regard to the First New York mounted rifles, I would like to say a word. What regiment took the lead in the fight at Deserted House? What regiment made a bold dash into House? What regiment made a bold dash into service without again entering the ranks. I have Longstreet's camp on the Edington road? aiready in public print called attention to this What regiment was in the advance at Bottom's Bridge in the fall of 1863? I happened to be with Colonel Underdonk and Major Wheelan, just in rear of the advance guard, and I think

I know whereof I speak. The First New York mounted rifles was always in the advance wherever they went. I would like to hear more from "Carbine No. 2." If he will give me his name through THE TRIB-UNE, I will send him the address of our regi- battery must have gone into the engagement with mental headquarters in New York City. The | much greater numbers than did company A, and regiment has a Reunion every spring there, and the secretary sends cards of invitation to all its old members when he knows where | interest in this connection. Probably the most they are. Who is J. G. T., U. S. A.? M. F. WAIT,

Troop E, 1st. N. Y. Mounted Rifles. WEEPING WATER, NEB.

Can Anybody Furnish This Peem !

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: * During our march to Charleston, S. C., we paper. I can recall but one verse, which is as

Ye patriots slumbering 'neath the sod, Some time since I wrote an article calling on Know ye the woes of poor, unhappy, State?

Know ye the turf has drank your children's blood, And your loved homes are spoiled and desolate? Can any comrade furnish THE TRIBUNE with a correct copy of these verses?

CARTERVILLE, Mo.

He Weuldn't Give up the Drum.

GEO. H. ARMSTEAD.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: This is my first attempt to write to you. I am a reader of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. My lost his leg at Gettysburg. Well I remember | was a drummer for over four years, and befound his drum, which was stolen from him in Now, boys, give us a few letters, and tell us of front of Petersburg, Va., August, 1864, and at once identified it as his own. The possessor, burg and Fort Hell. Let us hear from the men | however, refused to give it up to him. I am a child of fourteen. MANNIE WILHELM.

DORCHESTER, NEB. THE QUESTION SQUAD. Veterans Who Want to Hear from Their Old Comrades.

Comrade William H. Smith, late Co. K, Eighth brigade (Croxton's), First division, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Cumberland, from May 8, 1864, until its arrival at Macon, Ga., May, 1865. He adds: "I dier-General W. P. Benton. Brevet Major-General W. H. Emory was the last commander of the Nineteenth Corps, which was discontinued as a corps March 20, 1865. Major-General Fred Stoele commanded troops operating from Pirst. Did Burnside cause spears to be driven into the ground, points up, for the rebels to fall on when they stumbled over the wires that were woven among the stumps? I was there were woven among the stumps? I was there myself, and never heard of such a thing until Kentucky mounted infantry, First Tennessee cav-alry, and the Eighth Iowa cavalry. Our brigade commander, General Croxton, was one of the best men Kentucky ever sent to the field, but our divis-In TRIBUNE of 13th comrade G. W. Cox, of
Ninety-first Illinois, wants to know what army

Second. Can any one give the song (composed, I think, by some Indiana soldier) about

our regiment on his raid in the rear of Atlanta.

We went into that raid with 350 men, of whom mander was Major-General Gordon Granger,

Third. What was the name of the spy hung only seventeen got back. My own company (Co. and General Steele, who was formerly our company (Co. at Knowille soon after the size of the spy hung only seventeen got back. My own company (Co. at Knowille soon after the size of the spy hung only seventeen got back. My own company (Co. at Knowille soon after the size of the spy hung only seventeen got back. My own company (Co. at Knowille soon after the size of the spy hung only seventeen got back. My own company (Co. at Knowille soon after the size of the spy hung only seventeen got back. My own company (Co. at Knowille soon after the size of the spy hung only seventeen got back. My own company (Co. at Knowille soon after the size of the spy hung only seventeen got back. My own company (Co. at Knowille soon after the spy hung only seventeen got back. My own company (Co. at Knowille soon after the spy hung only seventeen got back.)

Thirteenth Corps occupied the left, resting on of Hospital No. 1 at Knoxville? God bless of his old regiment, and would like to know what | deavor to cut off Grant's communications with the Thirteenth Corps occupied the left, resting on of Hospital No. I at Knoxviner Got bless the Bay (Mobile), the Sixteenth Corps the them for their kindness there during '64 and the war when a mere boy, and was not thirteen the left of Grant's army, was nearest Vicksburg. years of age when he participated in the battle of Shiloh. He was on the picket line, and writes that he helped back to the line the first man who had became the advance in the movement now made.

A SUBSTANTIAL VICTORY. was shot in Sherman's division,—Comrade J. Trim-bour, of Cincinnati,—and that during the second day's fight, on Monday, he helped to carry out of range Captain Bertram, of Cincinnati, who was shot through the head with a grape or canister

> rade of his old regiment, published in our issue of September 20th, concerning the terrible charge made by the regiment at Cold Harbor, June 3, He states that on the evening of June 3 the rebel bands played all night in honor of the victory they had won, and that the band of the Thirteenth New Hampshire followed their example and also played during the night. The Eighty-first New York met with about the same fate at Fair Hopes the last day of May, 1862, as at Cold Harbor. Comrade McCusker would like to hear from the boys of the old Ninety-eighth New York, which seemed to share the fate of the Eighty-first regiment from Fair Hopes to Cold Harbor and Petersburg, and especially at the blowing up of the mine in front of the latter place. He would also like to correspond with the contrade of the Eighty-first New York, whose letter appeared in THE TRIBUNE of the 20th

Comrade H. S. Lowry, company E, Fourteenth Illinois infantry, Batavia, Ill., wants to know if the boys of the Second brigade, Fourth division, Seventeenth Army Corps, remember marching to the tune of the "Bob-tail Horse" near Waterford, Miss., and how it started. Perhaps Lientenant-Colonel Camm, of the pious Fourteenth, could tell (if alive). A peculiarity of that brigade was that it could always be identified by the fife and drum of the regiment (the Forty-sixth Illinois), which never failed to play "Soap Fat Man" or "Nigger in the Wood-pile. Comrade Lowry would like to hear from Billy Middleton, Paterson Clark, or any of the boys upon whom he waited at Natchez Post hospital. as well as A. P. Coon, who was with him one afternoon when strolling through the streets of Natchez in hospital robes, which attracted great attention, and made the children think we were Yankee priests. He hopes there is not as much jealousy existing between Sucker and Hoosier as there was when the Fourteenth Illinois presented General Veach (an Indiana officer) with a sword at

A POST CAMP-FIRE. An Address That May Serve as a Model for Com-

Memphis, Tenn.

manders Generally. At the Camp-fire of Chauncey Lawrence Post, No. 163, Sabula, Iowa, on the 7th inst., Commander Harvey Reid opened the meeting with the following felicitous address:

COMRADES AND FRIENDS: We, the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic that marched and fought in defense of our country and its flag in the dark days of the rebellion, meet to-night to recall to our own minds and to represent to yours some to drink. Some were in the act of drawing the of the events of twenty years ago. It is the camp scenes and experiences of the soldier's daily life that remain strongest in his memory, and familiar almost as the door-yards in which we played in our youth, are the low shelter tent, the stack of arms in front, the cartridge-box and belts, the knapsack (his trunk and his wardrobe), the canteen, and the haversack-its lankness too often, alas! portraying the dismal fact that "the enemy have got across our cracker line"-and then the camp-fire's cheerful blaze, around which we lay as steady gaze at the old man was a comical sight. evening shades began to fall and sang the stirring old army songs or "swapped lies!"

Around our emblematic camp-fire to-night will gather some of the surviving members of Co. A,

> event in their army experience-the battle of Champion's Hill. We were "boys" together in the old army, you know, friends. Uncle Sam would not accept for his defense any man who had passed the age of forty-five, and so our ranks became filled with the young and vigorous, whose pulses were bounding with the exuberant restlessness and frolicsome

spirit of that age when hope rules the mind and care is a stranger. In the daily camp life, therefore, gloomy forebod-I, too, have noticed the communication of Comrade C. M. Moody, and have waited in hones that some control of the day was the evil thereof," and so much of fun and enjoyment as our limited facilities could afford hopes that some one would give us a good de-scription of our campaign in the rear of Vicks- "the boys." We can no more grow old than could Dr. O. W. Holmes' classmates, of whom he writes on the thirtieth anniversary of their graduation:

> Has there any old fellow got mixed with the boys? If there has, take him out, without making a noise. Hang the almanae's cheat and the catalogue's Old Time is a liar! We're twenty to-night.

We're twenty! we're twenty! Who says we are He's tipsy,-young jackanapes! show him the "Gray temples at twenty?" Yes! white if you Where the snow-flakes fall thickest there's noth-

Was it snowing I spoke of? Excuse the mistake! Look close, you will see not a sign of a flake! We want some new garlands for those we have And these are white roses in place of the red.

So we first recall a camp-fire before the battle, when cheerfulness and fun ruled the hour. We paper or leaves and baked in the ashes. It was | shall hear the old martial music and the old bugle a hard campaign, of which there has been but | calls; sing some of the old songs, and some new little said, but which would afford material for ones, that have more of nonsense than of pathos in them, and then we will try to tell something of a first-class army story of facts; and I hope that other phase of a soldier's life, when for his that some of the many competent men who country's sake he bravely dared to march into the participated in that famous campaign will take | storm of death-dealing bullets and the cannon's it in hand. Above all, let us all do what little | terrible missiles and demand that the traitor's cause must fall.

A DECIMATED COMPANY.

The camp-fire after the battle we shall not attempt to portray; we have no desire to recall it. Fifly-four members of company A, Twenty-fourth Iowa, marched up Champion's Hill on that 16th day of May, 1863, but when they went into bivouse that night there were not more than twenty-three in the ranks. Sergeant George Davis attempted to call the roll, but it was too much; tears came more readily than words to all that little band, and they sought their sorrowful couches in silence. Nine of the company had been left dead on the field; eight more died of their wounds within a few days; fourteen others were wounded, of whom five were so maimed that they were discharged from the

extraordinary mortality of seventeen killed or died of their wounds in one battle from a company of fifty-four men, and expressed the doubt whether such a dread experience befell any other company of equal strength during the war. To my inquiry through THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, the most widely circulated veteran's paper published, I have as yet met but one response—that of the Eleventh Ohio battery at the battle of Iuka, September 19, 1862. which lost sixteen killed, thirty-five wounded, and three missing. It will be noted, however, that the their proportion of killed to wounded was much I have read recently some statistics that are of

famous organization of troops produced during the war was the "Iron Brigade" of the Army of the Potemac, composed entirely of Western troops— the Second, Sixth, and Seventh Wisconsin, Nineteenth Indiana, and Twenty-fourth Michigan. It participated in most of the hardest-fought battles of that splendid army, and I believe it is granted that it suffered more casualties than any other brigade in the service. The Second Wisconsin, of that brigade, was in the first battle of Bull Run; the united brigade received its first baptism of fire at Gainesville, or the second Bull Run, on the 28th Iowa regiment, I remember, copied the verses, which were afterwards published in some newsthe next day, at Antietam, where they received from McClellan their title of the "Iron Brigade," they left 343 more comrades dead and wounded. They were at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, but with small casualties at tysburg they opened the fight on the 1st day of July, 1863, and won imperishable honors—captured Archer's brigade of Mississippians and that general himself, but at the cost of 894 dead and wounded. From the Wilderness to Spottsylvania Court-house they left 813 dead and wounded comrades, and they were at Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Yellow Tavern, Hatcher's Run, and Five Forks. Yet, with all this arduous service and terrible casualties. the aggregate of killed and those who died of wounds in the brigade for the entire period was but 1,006 men, or an average of twenty to the company, whereas company A, Twenty-fourth Iowa, lost seventeen in one battle. CHAMPION'S HILL.

I was not present at the battle of Champion's Hill,my service was not with Grant's army,-and the task, therefore, assigned to me is the more distant one of historian; to present a hasty sketch of the plan of campaign or how the army got there. I shall, however, let this also be made from the standpoint of the Twenty-fourth Iowa. That regiment was organized at Camp Strong, Muscatine, Iowa, in August, 1862; remained there until the latter part of October, when it was transferred by steamer to Helena, Ark., and became part of Grant's Army of the Tennessee, whose objective point was the capture of Vicksburg and the opening of the Mississippi River. In April, 1863, the regiment left Helena by

steamer for Milliken's Bend, as a part of General A. P. Hovey's division of McClernand's Thirteenth Army Corps, to participate in the final move against Vicksburg. They were assigned to the Second brigade of Hovey's (Twelfth) division—the brigade consisting of the Forty-seventh Indiana, Twenty-fourit Iowa, Twenty-eighth Iowa and Fifty-sixth Ohio, commanded by Colonel Slack, of the Forty-seventh. the Forty-seventh Indiana. Grant's army was marched from Milliken's Bend, which was on the west side of the river, in Louisiana, down past Vicksburg to a landing called Hard Times, La., opposite Grand Gulf, Miss. Here they were loaded transports that had run past the batteries at Vicksburg and Grand Gulf, with Admiral Porter's fleet, and dropped down the river a few miles to

Bruinsburg, Miss., where they landed without op-The bold movement was then made of marching the entire army with only five days' rations in a mander was Major-General Gordon Granger, and General Steele, who was formerly our commanded a new corps, organized just before the opening of that campaign. The give the names of any or all of the four matrons on the seen but one and heard from but two members of the spy hung at Knoxville soon after the siege?

Third. What was the name of the spy hung at Knoxville soon after the siege?

Third. What was the name of the spy hung at Knoxville soon after the siege?

The movement was entirely successful, Jackson being taken by Sherman's Fifteenth Corps; and the give the names of any or all of the four matrons has seen but one and heard from but two members of the spy hung at Knoxville soon after the siege?

Comrade J. W. Scott, formerly a member of Co. A, Eighty-third O. V. I., writes that since 1865 he army was then turned towards Vicksburg to meet Pemberton's army, advancing from thence to enpaign against Jackson, the capitol of Missis-

Hovey's division bivouacked on the night of May 15 at Bolton Station, on the railroad, twenty-seven miles from Vicksburg and seventeen miles from Jackson. Pemberton's army on the same night was in position in front of Champion's Hill (a hill about seventy or eighty feet in height on the plantfirst New York, Mount Vernon, Ala., writes that he was much interested in the letter from a company of his old regiment. Under orders from General Johnmovement on the morning of May 16; but the advance of Grant pressing them, they were compelled to halt and give fight. This led to the battle of Champion's Hill, fought on our side mainly by the ons of Hovey and Osterhaus of McClernand's orps, and Logan and Quimby (then comman by Crocker, of Iowa) of McPherson's corps. It reited in a complete victory for the Union troops, who captured twenty-four pieces of artillery and .500 prisoners, and, being vigorously followed up, the rebels were driven into their works at Vicksourg and finally surrendered on the 4th of July. Eleven of the guns and many of the prisoners were taken by Hovey's division, and Gen. Hovey n his official report gives to the Twenty-fourth lows the credit of having taken five of them. I cannot better close this paper than by quoting | glad to hear from one of the comrades of the Ninth

> g the eleven guns, and the compliment he pays Twenty-fourth The Eleventh Indiana (Colonel Maccauley) and Twenty-ninth Wisconsin (Colonel Gill) captured the four guns on the brow of the hill at the point. The Leading Events of the War Arranged by of the bayonet. Colonel Bringhurst, with the Forty-sixth Indiana, gallantly drove the enemy from two guns on the right of the road, and Colonel Byam, with his brave and eager Twenty-fourth Iowa, charged a battery of five guns on the left of the road, driving the enemy away, killing gunners and capturing several prisoners.'

from Gen. Hovey's report what he says about tak-

The casualties in company A, Twenty-fourth Iowa, at the battle of Champion's flill, as obtained from the report of the Adjutant-General of the State of Iowa, were as follows: Killed on the field: First Lieut, Chauncey Lawrence, Serg't Michael Seeber, Corporal Danes M. Caton, Corporal Martin Guering; Privates Henry Bruntlett, Edw'd Henry, Lorenzo Ross, George William. Missing, probably killed outright, Job Cuttel. Died of wounds; Serg't Alfred Scofield, Corporal William A. Seeber; Privates William Babe, Asahel T. Gage, James L. Hickson, Theodore Jacobsen, Patrick Pendergast, and Alfred J. Waddilove, Wounded: Second Lieut, S. J. McKinley, in the head; Serg't Charles Davis, slightly, spent ball; Serg't Wm. B. Davis, in calves of both legs; taken prisoner, but hid in a ditch mail a ditch until recaptured by our troops; Corporal Winfield S. Kellogg; William Aikman, severely, in left arm; captured and taken to Vicksburg by the rebels; discharged for wounds September 7, 1863; David F. O. Cuttel, discharged for wounds November 5, 1863; Stephen Depue, in the left arm; discharged for wounds; John Drown, slightly; Jas. Esmay, in the left arm; Isaac N. Esmay, in the left shoulder; Fred Krumviede, in the head; Cornelius McKinley, in the left shoulder; discharged for wounds; John Sturm, in the left shoulder; Benj. Van Steenburg, right arm amputated.

THE MERCER SCHOOL. an Investigation Into Its Conduct Discloses Noth-

ing Wrong. At the recent Encampment of the Mercar County (Pa.) Veteran Association, the question recently raised by THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE as | Oct. 21 to to the management of the Soldiers' Orphans' Dec. 10. Expedition to Port Royal and capture School at Mercer, and its recommendation that an investigation should be made thereof, was taken up, and a committee selected from 500 ex-soldiers present was ordered to proceed at once to the school and make a thorough inquiry very happy. The next day we took some pris- Twenty-fourth Iowa infantry, and we shall learn into its condition. Carrying out their instructions the committee duly visited the school and | Oct. now make the following report, which will be received with general satisfaction:

First-We found the institution favorably located. It occupies the site of a water-cure establishment of years ago, whose buildings were purchased for the purposes of the school. To them others have been added as has been found necessary. It is upon a level extensively occupied by private dwellings. It has good drainage and is abundantly supplied by a fine spring of soft water.

Second-The building affords ample and comfortable accommodations to all the children who attend. The dormitories are large and well ventilated. They are provided with stoves for heating and drying purposes. They are mopped out every morning except Saturday, when they are scrubbed. They are comfortably supplied with beds and good, clean bedding. We saw them on Saturday, after a week's use, and found all in exceedingly good order. The dormitories are provided with sufficient fire escapes, and the sexes are in different buildings. Third-The personal cleanliness of the children eems to be looked to. Provision is made for their oathing, both summer and winter. Once a week

they receive changes of underclothing, and due requisition of cleanliness is made upon them.

Fourth—The sanitary record of the school is exceedingly good. In the last six years only three cases of death have occurred, although the attendince has run about three hundred, and the children have been subjected to the ordinary run of disease. One of these cases was by poisoning through eating a wild parsnip. Another was an epileptic case at the time of arrival at the place. The third was a case of scarlet fever, which was treated by the child's own guardian, a physician. It will be difficuit to show a better record. Fifth-Some of the children, whom we picked up

here and there on the grounds, expressed themselves well satisfied with the food provided. Their appearance shows they are liberally and healthfully provided for. It would be difficult to find a realthier-looking lot of boys and girls. We saw them at their dinner. It was good, very good, and they were well behaved. From what we saw and heard we have no hesitation in saying that the commissary department is all that could be reasonably expected. It is as good as that of most soldiers' children at home, and better than afforded in many cases. They are given fresh meat in good supply; vegetables in season; canned fruits; tea and coffee as often as any children should have them; butter at almost every meal, sirup at other times; rice, raisins, pies, and other dainties very frequently. Indeed, our impression is that anyone should be satisfied with what is set on the table, And so we have found old soldiers to be who have

visited the place. The cooking seems excellently Sixth-The clothing is all that can be desired. The boys are elad in dark blue jackets and light blue pants, and ordinary good caps and shoes dur-ing the week. The "Sunday-suit" is of dark blue material throughout. All are of excellent quality. The children all look neat and trim, although the new suits have not yet arrived this fall. The girls have on the average five outside suits at the present time. These are made at the place, the girls doing a fair share of the work. Their entire outfit makes them as presentable as most young misses and children, and more so than very many who depend on their parents. Parents and friends are not expected to furnish anything in the way of clothing, nor, indeed, in any other way. All the children have good underclothing for the winter. The girls will wear flannel dresses, and are also provided with a warm wrap for outdoors.

Seventh-Opportunity is afforded to learn how to work. The boys, by detail, attend to the fatigue duty as far as consistent with their school duties. The mopping and scrubbing and bed-making of their own departments are done by both boys and girls. All are sent by turns into wash-house, bakehouse, ironing-room, sewing-room, cook-house, according as may suit age and sex. We saw them at most of these things. They are, most of them, as proficient at ordinary work as other children of

Eighth.—The moral and biblical training is as good as any like institution, whether under State or private control, affords. The corps of instructors are excellent Christian ladies and gentlemen, Chapel services are held every day. On the Sabbath there is Sabbath school. Pains are taken even to have neighboring ministers and Christian workers come in and talk to the children. They are at liberty to attend any of the churches in the town. It would seem difficult to take exception to the opportunities thus afforded.

Ninth-We made inquiry as to the competence of the instructors for their work. We were assured they are in every way qualified, and that they gave as good education as in any school of like grade. We have no doubt that the pupils here are as well and correctly advanced in their studies as other children of their age, and that they will make as good marks as those in the ordinary graded schools. We esteem the tuition given as beyond honest criticism. In conclusion of this report we commend the

school to the confidence of all concerned. It is worthy of patronage. Its management in every way seems excellent. The purpose of those in charge manifestly is to honestly carry out the purpose of the State in making provision for the edueation and training of the soldier's orphan. We would likewise say that the representations of Col. Bumpus respecting the school in The National TRIBUNE of last summer were, as we understand them, correct.

This report is respectfully submitted. [Signed] J. A. GRIER, Co. C, 33d Ill. Vet.Vol. Inf., Pastor 2d U. P. Church, Mercer, Pa. M. R. ZAHNISER,

Co. B, 140th P. V., Sharpsville, Pa. W. J. NEYMAN, Co. H, 78th P. V., Grove City, Pa. J. W. FRUIT, Capt., Co. G, 10th Pa. Reserves, New Hamburg, Pa. J. R. CALDWELL, M. D., Co. -, 10th Pa. Reserves, New Hamburg, Pa. E. C. STRAUSS, Capt., Co. K, 57th P. V., Meadville, Pa. CAMP WARNER, MERCER, PA., Oct. 6, 1883.

FILE-LEADERS.

Letters from the Grand Army of Tribune Subscribers.

Inclosed please find \$6 for six new subscribers to THE TRIBUNE. - A. N. Taylor, Carey, Ohio. ,Inclosed please find \$5 for five new subscribers to THE TRIBUNE, making eleven in all that I have sent you.-R. J. Ewing, Silver Creek, Ohio. Inclosed please find \$10 for ten new subscribers to The Tribune. As premium, please send me a Waterbury watch.—J. K. Fisher, Noblesville, Ind. Inclosed please find \$10 for ten new subscribers to THE TRIBUNE. As premium, you may send me a Waterbury watch.—William McDonald, Logan,

Inclosed please find \$10 for ten new subscribers

but it is not likely to be my last, order .- J. J. Delabar, Oquawka, Ill.

Inclosed please find \$10 for ten new subscribers to TRE TRIBUNE. As premium, you may send me the book entitled "Capture of a Locomotive."— John Bump, Derrick City, Pa. Inclosed please find \$10 for ten new subscribers to THE TRIBUNE. We cannot afford to do without

Inclosed please find \$3.75 for a copy of THE TRIB-

UNE and a Waterbury watch. I duly received the

watch sent me by registered package, and must say I am well pleased with it. It has kept perfect time ever since I had it, and has far surpassed my

Inclosed please find \$6 for six new subscribers,

My father was a member of conpany K, Ninth Illinois V. V. cavalry, Second brigade, Fifth divis-

ion, commanded by General Hatch, and would be

or Second brigades. -P. W. Pullen, Gleneoe, Mo.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE WAR.

Weekly Anniversaries.

16. Action at Boliver Heights, Va., by Co.

and 6th N. Y. battery of art.

16. Skirmish near Linn Creek, Mo., by

Fremont's battalion of Mo. cav.

16. Recapture of Lexington, Mo., by Co's C and L, Ist Mo., and Naughton's Co. of Mo. cav., and 27th Mo. mounted inf.

17-18. Skirmishes near Fredericktown, Mo.

18. Recommissance down the Mississipp

tachment of 1st Mo. cav.

Va., by 1st Pa. rifles.

tery I, 1st U.S. art.

tery E, 3d U. S. art.

1862.

16. Skirmish at Wild Cat Mountain.

detachment of 14th Mo. (S. M.) cav.

troops not given.

by 90th Ohio inf.

ment of 43d Ind. inf.

ment of 4th Ohio cav.

Ky., by 8th and 21st Ky., 51st Ohio, and 35th Ind. inf.

20. Skirmish on Gallatin pike, near Nash-

20. Skirmish at Pittman's Fork, Ky., by

21. Reconnaissance from Loudoun Heights

21. Skirmish near Wheatland, Va., by de-

to Lovetiesville, Va., by detachment of 6th N. Y. cav.; 102d N. Y., 28th, 109th and 11th Pa., 3d Md., 5th, 7th and 66th Ohio inf., and battery E,

ville, Tenn., by 74th Ohio inf.

9th ind, inf.

9th Ind. inf.

by 78th Pa, inf.

ment of 43d Ind. inf.

tachment of 10th Iil. cav.

tery E. Pa. light art.

ments of 5th and 9th Ill, cav.

detachment of 1st Md. cav.

1863.

alry Corps, Army of the Potomac,

17. Skirmish at Humansville, Mo., by 6th

Mo. Militia cav. 18. Skirmish at Charlestown, Va., by 9th

18, Skirmish at Berrysville, Va., by 34th

Mass, vols. and 17th Ind battery.

19. Action at Buckland Mills, Va., by 3d

20, Action at Barton Station, Miss., by

troops of the Army of the Tennessee.

20-22, Action at Philadelphia, Tenn., by 45th
Ohio Mounted inf., 1st, 11th and 12th

Ky. cav., and 24th Ind. buttery.

21. Action at Cherokee Station, Ala., by

of the Tennessee.
21. Action at Opelousas, La., by Franklin's

div., Cavalry Corps, Army of the Po-

Osterhaus' Ist div., 15th Corps, Army

Tahonia and Adele.

Md. vols.

1st Me. cav.

by 32d Iowa vois.

Co. A, 3d W. Va. cav.

Kan. cav.

Ind. inf.

tachment of 28th Ohio inf.

C, 13th Mass.; detachments of 28th Pa. and 3d Wis, inf.; battery B, 1st R. L,

by detachments of 1st Ind. cav., Haw-

expectations.—T. C. Bradford, Ridge Farm, Ill.

No. 89, De Witt, Neb.

19. Action at Lexington, Mo., by 3d Wis., 5th, 11th, 15th, and 18th Kan, cav.; it. You may send me a Waterbury watch as pre mium.-William McEklridge, Polk, Onio. Price's invasion of Missouri.

19. Battle of Cedar Creek (or Middletown), Inclosed please find \$6 for six new subscribers to Va., by 1st and 3d div. cav., and 6th THE TEIEUNE—the best soldiers paper in the world. Please send me "Shenandoah Valley in Corps, Army of the Potomae; Sth 1864," as premium.-C. A. Carter, Rushville, Pa.

Corps and cav., Army of West Virginia; and 1st and 2d div., 19th Corps. 20-26. Skirmish at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; Inclosed please find \$2 for two more subscribers, making forty-three in all that I have sent you, and troops not given. these are by no means the last shots that I shall send, -A. H. L. Giffin, Commander, Curtis Post, 20. Action at Little River, Tenn., by cav.

1st Fla. cav.

and portion of 15th Corps.

21. Skirmish at Harrodsburg, Ky., by 5th
U. S. colored eav.

21. Engagement at Little Blue, Mo., by 24 Col., 3d Wis., 5th, 17th, 15th, and 16th Kan, cav., and one brigade of Kan, militia, 2d and 5th Mo. militia, and two bat of the 2d Me art; two engagements. Price's invasion of Mis-

Oct 16. Action at Ship's Gap, Taylor's Ridge, Ga., by 1st div., 15th Corps. 17. Skirmish at Cedar Ron Church, Va., by

detachment of 1st Conn. cav.

18. Action at Pierce's Point, Blackwater, Fla., by 15th Iowa vols, 2d Me. and

22. Action at Independence, Mo., by 2d Col., 5th, 7th, 18th, 15th, and 18th Kan, cav. and Kan, militia, 1st, 2d, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Mo. militia cav., 18th Mo., 3d lows and 17th ill, cav.; two engagements. Price's invasion of

22. Skirmish at White River, Ark., by 53d U. S. colored troops.

22. Gunboat attack on the Union batteries,

on the James River, Va. Confederate loss, II wounded. 23. Skirmish at Hurricane Creek, Miss., by

1st Iowa and 9th Kan. cav. 23. Skirmish at Princeton, Ark., by 3d Mo.

 Engagement at Westport, Big Blue, Mo., by Mo. militia cav., cav. of Gen-A. J. Smith's command, and cav. and Kan, militia of the Army of the Border: Price's invasion of Missouri.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS. kins' Co. of Mo. cav. and 21st Ill. inf. Replies to Questions on a Variety of Interesting Subjects.

River, by gunbost Tyler of the navy. 18. Skirmish at Warrensburg, Mo., by de-W. H. T., Coriana, Minh, -The event mentioned took pince February 6 and 7, 1864, and was a recon- Action at Rig Hurricane Creek, Mo., by detachment of 18th Mo. inf. naissance to cover Kilpatrick's raid on Richmond, Your letter was mislaid; hence the delay. 20. Reconnaissance to Herndon Station,

N. L. F., Utica, Mo.-The attorney mentioned is in good standing so far as we know. If you write to him, no doubt he can inform you of the cause of 19-21. Skirmish on New River, W. Va., by de-

21. Engagement at Ball's Eluff, Va., by
15th, 19th, 20th Mass., 42d N. Y. and
71st Pa. inf.; detachments of battery

H. H. M., Centre Point, Inwa.—You should have been notified had your claim for increase been re-H. H. M., Centre Point, Iawa.-You should have B, 1st R. L., 6th N. Y. battery, and batjected. We would advise that you state all the facts again, including the date of your examination, 21. Skirmish near Edwards' Ferry, Va., by detachment of 3d N. Y. cav.

21. Engagement at Fredericktown, Mo., by

to the Commissioner, and ask condition of the claim. It may be that it was rejected and the notice of such fact failed to reach you. 1st Ind., Stewart's Co. of Ill., and J. D. M., Lauton, Mich.-Where two or more dis-Langren's Co. of Mo. cav.; 11th Mo., abilities are alleged, and one is proven, pension is 17th, 20th, 21st, 33d and 38th Ill. inf.; batteries B, 1st Ill., and A, 1st Mo. art. granted on the one, and the remainder of his claim 21. Skirmish on Warwick road, near Newremains pending, and when completed will be disposed of. The injury will be classed the same as a wound. There is no "usual rate" for rheumatism. port News, Va., by detachment of 3d 21. Action at Wildeat, Ky., by detachments of 1st Ky. cav.; 7th Ky., 14th, 17th Ohio, 33d Ind. inf., and battery B, 1st The rating depends entirely upon claimant's ability to perform manual labor, and may be from \$2 to \$30. The fact of paralysis appearing in connection with the rheumatism will have no particular bearing upon your claim. It will probably be included

in the rating as a result of rheumatism of Hilton Head, S. C., by 8th and 9th
Me., 3d and 4th N. H., 3d R. I., 5th
and 7th Conn., 1st N. Y. engineers,
46th, 47th, 48th and 79th N. Y., 50th,

C. E. B., Brooklyn
unon the result of me Subscriber, Rossville, Iowa,-We do not know. We C. E. B., Brooklyn, N. Y.-It depends entirely

upon the result of medical examination of the dis-100th Pa., and 8th Mich. inf., and batability. It might be rated at any sum between \$9 and \$18, and if it is equivalent to loss of leg below the knee, it would be rated at \$24. W. B. C., Georgetown, Ill.-The statement made by 6th and 27th Ky., 41st Ohio, 9th, 36th and 79th Ind. inf. to you that during the war governors of some of the Northern States gave the inmates of prisons

16. Skirmishes at Shell's Mills, Mo., and and penitentiaries their liberty if they would enlist Elkhorn Tavern, Ark., by 2d Kan. in the army is a malicious falsehood, and the party 16, Affair at Portland, Mo., by detachment of 1st buttalion (S. M.) Mo. cav. who so informed you must have served out his time. He is probably a great admirer of Senator connaissance from Harper's Ferry to Beek. Kearneysville, Va., by detachment of 6th N. Y. cav. econnaissance from near Sharpsburg.

J. H., Wheeling, W. Va.—It is not a fact that pensioners in Ohio or any other State are rated higher than pensioners in West Virginia. There is no favoritism shown pensioners in any locality. There

16-17. Reconnaissance from near Sharpsburg. Md., in the direction of Kearneys-ville, Leetown, and Smithfield, Va., is a vast difference in the degree of disability reand skirmishes en route, by 1st Mass., and skirmishes en route, by 1st Mass., sulting from gun-shot wounds of shoulder and and detachment of 5th U. S. cav.; 3d other disabilities. Those that are receiving higher Mass, battery, and battery D, 5th U. S. pensions than you are receiving are disabled that art.; 9th and 32d Mass., 14th N. Y., 62d, 91st, 126th, 129th and 134th Pa., 2d because you are only one-fourth disabled. If you 62d, 91st, 126th, 129th and 13th Pa., 2d because you are only one-fourth disabled. If you D. C., 4th Mich., 6th, 11th, 14th and were disabled to a greater extent you would be 16-17. Reconnaissance from Harper's Ferry to
Charlestown, W. Va., by detachments of 6th N. Y. and 3d Indiana, 1st, 2d,
5th and 6th U. S.

5th and 6th U. S. cav.; batteries A, 1st R. I., B and G, 1st N. Y., and E, 4th U. S. art.; 5th N. H., 20th and 29th Old Comrade, Upper Tygart, Ky.-Ist. In quoting from our statements, heretofore made, that "in absence of hospital records, and inability to furnish Mass., 7th, 42d, 52d, 57th, 59th, 61st, 63d, 64th, 66th, 69th and 88th N. Y., 53d, 71st, 72d, 81st, 116th and 132d Pa., testimony of regimental surgeon, the claim is re-jected," you should have added "and inability to furnish medical testimony" showing existence of 2d Del., 7th W. Va., 4th and 8th Ohio, the disability on return from service, in claims 7th Mich., Lith Ind. and 1st Minn. inf. 17. Skirmish at Lexington, Mo., by detachment of 6th Mo. (S. M.) cav. where the disability is a disease that is not readily distinguished by an ordinary observer. The Department will promptly reject invalid claims of above-mentioned class as soon as it is ascertained 17. Skirmish at Mountain Home, Mo., by that it is not susceptible of proof as stated. 2d. The claim cannot be rejected simply because the Sur-17. Skirmish at Sugar Creek, Ark., by 2d 17. Skirmish at Thoroughfare Gap, Va.; geon-General's report fails to show that solther was treated in service for the alleged disability. Testimony has to be called for and the claim pro-17. Skirmish at Island No. 10, Tenn., by Co. ceeded with until all the facts are developed. 3d. L, 2d Ill. cav., and Co's G and I, 15th Why the Pension Office attaches so much importance to the statements of poetmasters is because they are sworn officers of the Government, and it 18. Skirmish at California House, Mo., by detachment of 13th Mo. (S. M.) cav. is supposed that they will assist the Pension Office 18. Skirmish at Nelson's Cross-roads, Ky., in communicating such facts as are known to them without fear or favor. Too much reliance is placed 18, Skirmish at Cross Hollow, Ark., by 2d on such statements, in our opinion. Postmasters are as liable to be biased against the claimant as the witnesses are for him, and their reports should be subject to the same discount as the testimony on file in the case is often subjected. Unfortnight this is not the content of the case in the case is often subjected. 18. Skirmish near Helena, Ark., by detach-18. Skirmish at Rockeastle River, Ky., by 6th and 27th Ky., 41st Ohio and 9th nately, this is not the case, and it is wrong that it is so. 4th. Testimony of a postmaster should be con-18. Skirmish at Bloomfield, Ky., by 2d Ky. sidered no better than the testimony of a creditable witness. The simple statement of a postmaster 18. Skirmish near Unionton, Mo., by detachment of 2d Mo. cav. and enrolled davits of a respectable witness of known reliability 18. Action at Lexington, Ky., by detach-ment of 3d and 4th Ohio cay. in his community. A postmaster is subject to the same failings as any other man. 19. Skirmish at Bardstown, Ky., by detach-

L. N. G., Healdsburg, Cal.—You will have to prove all the facts alleged in a claim. Your own affida-vits as to origin will have no weight at all. If there 19. Skirmish at Pittman's Cross-roads, Ky., by 6th and 27th Ky., 41st Ohio, and | be no record of the injury, you will have to furnish proof of eye-witnesses to its incurrence. 19. Skirmish at St. John's Parish, La., by Co's B and F, 9th Vt. inf.

19. Reconnaissance on the Madison road.

J. R. R., Hornerstown, N. J.-All you can do is to make an affidavit setting forth fully the reasons why you cannot furnish testimony of regimental surgeon, and send such afficiavit to the Commissioner of Pensions.

G. L. F., Centre Junction, Iowa. - You should make application for a homestead entry to the Register and Receiver at any land office in the State where 20. Skirmish near Helena, Ark., by detach- you desire to enter said land. You will have to reside thereon five years, less the time served in 20. Skirmish at Hedgesville, W. Va., by de-tachment of 4th Pa. cav.

20. Skirmish at Hermitage Ford, Tenn.,

21. Skirmish at Hermitage Ford, Tenn., can obtain all the information you desire. The 20. Skirmish near Marshfield, Mo., by de- law in full (and location of land offices) was pulslished in our issue of May 10, 1883,

> W. E. M., Emperia, Kan,-If you have the original furlough, and it bears indorsements thereon showing the extensions, you can collect commuttion of rations for the time of your nutborized absence. Without the original papers you cannot establish a claim F. W., Quinton, N. J .- You will have to make application to the Post from which you were sua-

tachment of 5th N. Y. cav., and bat-21. Skirmish at Woodville, Tenn., by de- pended, and will be required to pay your back tachment of 2d Ill. cav.

dues, or such sum as the Post may decide, then you can be reobligated in the Post which you detaligo and engagements near Poco-taligo, S. C., by 3d and 4th N. H., 6th and 7th Conn., 48th N. Y., 47th, 55th and 76th Pa, inf: detachment of 1st sire to join, upon the written request of the Post retermaster-General, U.S.A., for amount of clothing

Mass. cav.; 1st N. Y. engineers; but-teries M, of 1st, and E, of 3d U. S. art. allowances. The rates varied frequently during 22. Action at old Fort Wayne, near Mays- 1863-61; highest in 1884, owing to the advance ville, Ark., by 2d Ind. battery.; 2d in prices of all things. It would consume too and 6th Kan, cav., and 3d Kan. Indian much space for us to publish all you ask, 2d, home guard. When prisoners of war were released the Gov-22. Action at Coosawhatchie, S. C., by de- ernment furnished them with new clothing, which incliment of 3d R. I. art.; Co's F and made good the loss by espture, besides the soldiers received the money value of all clothing not drawn by them during their service. This amount 22. Skirmish near Helena, Ark., by detachwas included in their final payments and paid to them by the paymaster at discharge. 23. Skirmishes near Waverly and Richland, Tenn., by detachment of battery C.

T. J. B., Lee Valley, Tenn, -Pensions to soldlers of war of 1812, for wounds or disability incurred in 2d Ill. art.; 83d Iowa inf.; Co. A, 5th service, were provided for as early as 1812 and 1813. Such pensions consisted of half pay for officers and 23. Skirmish at Manassas Junction, Va., by five dollars per month to enlisted men. February 14, 1871, Congress authorized the placing on the pension roll, at \$8 per month, all honorably dis-23. Skirmish near Catlett's Station, Va., by charged survivors of war of 1812 who served sixty 23. Skirmish near Shelby Depot, Tenn., by 55th Ill. inf. days and who were loyal during the late rebellion; widows of such were also entitled, providing they 23, Skirmish at Clarkston, Mo., by Co. D. were married to the soldier prior to the treaty of 2d Ill. cav.; battery K, 2d Ill. art., and detachment of 72d Ill. inf. peace terminating said war, and had not since remarried. March 9, 1878, former acts of Congress were amended so that service of fourteen days, or Oct. 16-18. Engagement at Brownsville, Miss., by portion of the 15th and 17th Corps, Maj.-Gen McPherson. participation in any engagement, entitled survivor of said war to pension, also widows of said soldiers, and the clauses as to dates of widow's mar-16. Skirmish at Cross Timbers, Mo., by 18th | riage and disloyalty were stricken out. The heirs of soldiers of war of 1812 are not provided for in Iowa vols.

17. Destruction of two blockade runners in any way, and are not entitled.

Tampa Bay, Fla., by Union gunboats A. M. S., Eliz City, Kan. -Ist, There is no way of determining the percentage of officers and enlisted 17. Action at Clinton, Miss., by detachment of the Army of the Tennessee, commanded by Maj.-Gen. McPherson.

17. Action at Rapidan, Va., by 1st div., Cav-

G. W., Bay View, Md., and E. B. C., Hurd, Pa,-Soldiers who re-enlisted as veterans were entitled to \$402 veteran bounty. If you received but \$300 you received recruit bounty instead of veteran bounty. You can apply for the differences and, if your statements are correct, you are entitled thereto. J. E. W., North Middlelown, Ny.—1st. See reply to J. S., in our last issue, 2d, If claimant has heard nothing from his claim for increase since his ex-amination several months ago, it does not indicate 'that his claim will be allowed," but it does indicate neglect on the part of somebody. 3d. It is quite a common custom for the Pension Office to write to claimant's witnesses and other persons for information regarding the claim. Ith, When claim for increase on oid disability is rejected that ends the claim for the time being. If subsequently allowed it will not "date back," but only

div. of Banks' troops.

22. Skirmish at Beverly Ford and Rappafrom the date of the examination establishing the increased disability. D. J. O., Westmore, Ft.-Your friend was correct hannock Crossing, Va., by 2d Pa. and as to date. The Second Massachusetts infinity was 22. Skirmish at New Madrid Bend, Tenn., the first three years' regiment mustered into service. The date of said muster was May 33, 1861. New 23. Skirmish at supply train, Tuliahoma, Tenn., by 70th Ind. vols. York comes next with the Thirty-ninth regiment, mustered in May 28, 1861.